CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

25X1

COUNTRY	Lithuania	DATE DISTR. 28 Sep 1953
SUBJECT	Railroad Information/Chemical Plants/ Description of the Town of Sveksna	NO. OF PAGES 2
PLACE ACQUIRED		25X1 NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)
DATE ACQUIRED		SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.
DATE OF INFORMATION		25X1

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1. **Q.** For the period 1940-1944, describe any major policy changes in railroad operation of the Lithuanian system that manifested USSR influence in this operation.

   A.   25X1
   There was a complete change-over to the Soviet system   25X1
   including a change in gauge from Western European to Soviet. All the locomotives were changed except six of our best new Skoda engines which could not be changed. There was complete Soviet administration retaining for at least a while some Lithuanians. Later a large number of Lithuanians with railroad experience were relocated in the USSR.

2. **Q.** Was there any evidence of long range Soviet planning to change over from steam operation to Diesel/electric locomotives?

   A. There was no evidence of any long range Soviet planning to change from steam to Diesel/electric locomotives.

3. **Q.** Give any figures showing total track mileage in Lithuania in 1940 and any later data. Also indicate amount of double track.

   A. The total track mileage was approximately 3000 km of standard Western European gauge, some one meter gauge track. The track between Kaunas and the German frontier was double-tracked.

4. **Q.** If possible, locate each transloading point known and describe the methods used at these points between the USSR and Lithuania. How long did it take to transload a car of given weight?

   A. There was no transloading point in Lithuania but there was one in Latvia at Daugavpils [_____] Here axles were changed on those   25X1
   cars which were suitable for interchange. These cars were marked [____]   25X1
   with a T . These cars were raised with four screw jacks and two bars and   25X1
   the axles changed. [____] It took about fifteen minutes to change axles on   25X1
   a car with a 10-15 ton payload.[_____]

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6. Q. Give location and description of the largest yard in Lithuania. (Whether track or hump marshalling yard.)

A. The largest yard in Lithuania was at Siauliai and another large one at Radviliskis. Both of these are track marshalling yards. The only hump marshalling yard was at Klaipeda.

7. Q. Describe any difficulties that obtained from the use of hard water in locomotives and methods used to combat same.

A. The water was softened by ion exchange.

8. Q. What were types and quality of fuel used in steam locomotives?

A. Previous to the beginning of World War II [   ] coal after it
25X1   became impossible to obtain this, [   ] of Soviet and German
25X1   coal; in the yard engines [   ]
25X1

9. Q. [   ] give a list of the chemical plants in Lithuania or in any of the
25X1   other Baltic states with which you are familiar? The following data
       concerning each of these plants are desired:
       (a) What products were produced?
       (b) What was the production of each of these products?
       (c) What was the distribution of the production from each of the
           plants? What are your estimates concerning the operations of
           these plants in 1953?

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A. [   ] three sugar plants. One at Panevezys, one at Mariamole
   and one at Paventis. All of these produce for domestic consumption and
   usually are only run in the fall.

10. Q. Give a description of the town of Sveksna. The description should include:
       (a) Character of surrounding terrain.
       (b) Economic activity.
       (c) Types of residences.
       (d) Street construction.
       (e) Character of the roads leading into Sveksna from the surrounding
           countryside.
       (f) Population

A. The town of Sveksna was a small town of three thousand people; a thousand
   of whom were Jews and were exterminated. It is located in a hilly country
25X1   with many small rivers and forests nearby. The economic activity [   ]
   class as small artisan-type. The town was completely destroyed by fire
   in 1925 and was rebuilt. It is built around a park 500 meters x 200 meters
   with radial streets going out from the park. The houses are of brick in the
   center and frame further out; the streets are of cobblestone. There is a
   good gravel highway leading in from Memel.

11. Q. Give information regarding the training of chemical engineers at the
       Technical College in Kaunas, Lithuania.

A. There was no chemical engineering training at the Technical College in
   Kaunas, Lithuania. Only civil, mechanical, electrical and architectural
   engineering were taught.

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